Boston April 4 - 1888

Dear friend

I was so much grieved & troubled - when Maria showed me your letter of yesterday - that I felt impelled to write to you directly: to express what I feel & tell what I know — ~~I cannot think who~~ ~~who it is~~ ~~with~~ I am surprised at the statements that have been made to you — & the more as they are in a great measure unfounded — I know that the brethren cannot seem to comprehend - that this matter is not in outline & detail entirely in their hands — & I think their ~~[illegible]~~ given to gossip — ~~about~~ respecting our plans than to give rational advice or substantial aid — I know all about the ~~originations~~ & ~~beginning~~ ~~& our~~ our plans for these lectures - in our conversations with the Ladies' Society ~~& with~~ I never ~~[illegible]~~ ~~the~~ heard it suggested that you were not to deliver a proportion of the lectures — Mr Rhodes Grimke was invited to lecture - ~~& [illegible]~~ supposed

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~~of course~~ — & it was for you to decide which of you should speak — ~~we mean~~ ~~I supposed that you~~ The Odeon was not prepared for Angelina, more than for yourself — It was prepared for the Misses Grimké — ~~& so on~~ & advertisements were written accordingly —

I know that Angelina is more popular with many of the brethren than yourself, as a speaker — & they wished ~~her to speak~~ to have her appear ~~lecture~~ that but I supposed that after your very successful lecture at the Odeon they were satisfied with the arrangement & believe that generally they are so ~~mainly satisfied~~ —

I remember perfectly my own sinfulness when I first heard you both speak at "4 & 6" — last summer — & I am to marin this that — I did thought your ~~style~~ lectures equally interesting but likewise Angelina's manner here we thought your tone ~~voice~~ peculiarly & monotonous — I dared not write tell Sarah what we think — & if this be of a fault, it is easily remedied but Marin said "no" — for many like Sarah best — & perhaps ~~no change~~ we should ~~to move~~ do harm ~~than good~~ if we should ~~succeed in~~ cause any change

I heard regret expressed that you saw nothing before the legislature — Maria was sorry — it was fully expected by committee & audience that you would speak there —

I was very desirous myself that Angelina should deliver the first lecture at the Eclecon — because so much ~~many went away from the State house~~ curiosity was excited in numbers who did not succeed in hearing her at the State house & the wish to hear her was so loudly expressed among the ~~some~~ hitherto ~~[illegible]~~ unwitting Bostonians

Before you had been speaking 5 minutes — I liked the arrangement just as well as if I had ~~done it~~ planned it my own way — ~~& there is no doubt of the~~ for there could not have been a better lecture — & ~~its fair & powerful in~~ ~~for~~ ~~whole to~~ faithful & able — It was all we could ask — ~~& it was~~ & it made the impression that might have been expected — If I thought you cared for such things I could give you testimonials — in abundance of the favorable reception it met — — There was only one fault ~~in it~~ — ~~it~~ which as fault finding seems to be the order of the day you will permit me to mention — the giving authorities at length takes up too much time & makes the lecture about 10 or 15 minutes too long — It would be better to tell them that you can prove this & so — but unless where some startling effect is to be produced by quotation to save ~~that~~ the time which ~~they~~ it occupies

Mary Chapman begs me to tell you that she thinks just as I do & that you ought not by any means to let Sam Angelman give all the lectures — that the effect will be much better & more interesting & vanity given to them if ~~you should~~ the original plan is carried out

— do not suppose that you made less impression than I because you were interrupted more — it was Henry Chapman's eloquence — aided by six constables & two watchmen — ~~that~~ & not Angelmis this that was powerful — that so effectually quelled the shouting boys & the city — last Thursday evening —

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